Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 GSA-01 ERDA-05 IO-10 AF-06 EA-07

EUR-12 SAJ-01 OES-03 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DLOS-04 OFA-01

CG-00 DOTE-00 /108 W

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R 111505Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 859

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, BR, PE

SUBJECT: VISIT TO BRAZIL BY PERUVIAN FONMIN ANGEL DE LA FLOR

1. SUMMARY: ON JULY 25, PERUVIAN FONMIN DE LA

FLOR CALLED ON PRESIDENT GEISEL AND HAD EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS

WITH FONMIN SILVEIRA ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECT, MOST

BILATERAL. IN SEPTEMBER, THE PERU/BRAZIL MIXED

COMMISSION WILL CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR GREATER

PERUVIAN EXPORTS OF NON-FERROUS METALS TO

BRAZIL AND COMPARABLY GREATER BRAZILIAN EXPORTS TO

PERU. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, DE LA FLOR EXPRESSED AN INTEREST

IN NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH BRAZIL, BUT A GOB OFFICIAL

SAID PERU HAD MADE NO SPECIFIC PROPOSAL. DE LA FLOR

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AND SILVEIRA REAFFIRMED THEIR IDENTIFICATION WITH THE THIRD

WORLD. THE PRESS REPORTED THAT DE LA FLOR AGREED WITH BRAZIL THAT SELA SHOULD NOT BE AN INSTRUMENT OF CONFRONTATION WITH THE US. FONMIN'S PERUVIAN DESK OFFICER BELIEVES BRAZILIAN RELATIONS WITH PERU ARE IMPROVING SLOWLY EVEN THOUGH PERU IS "DRUNK WITH RHETORIC". IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, A PERUVIAN DIPLOMAT WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AND HE MINIMIZED IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES. EMBASSY BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT ANY MEANINGFUL RAPPROCHEMENT WILL BE SLOW IN COMING AND THAT THE TOUCHSTONE ISSUE WILL CONTINUE TO BE CHILE. END SUMMARY.

2. RETURNING TO SOUTH AMERICA AFTER A SWING THROUGH ASIAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES, PERUVIAN FONMIN MIGUEL ANGEL DE LA FLOR VISITED BRASILIA ON JULY 25 AND DEPARTED FOR LIMA THE NEXT DAY. THE UNOFFICIAL VISIT STARTED WITH A COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT GEISEL AFTER WHICH FONMIN SILVEIRA ENTERTAINED DE LA FLOR AT A LUNCH. LATER THE TWO MET TO DISCUSS BILATERAL SUBJECTS (THE GOB'S MAIN INTEREST, ACCORDING TO A FONMIN OFFICIAL), THE WORLD ENERGY CRISIS, WORLD INFLATION, NIEO, SELA, CUBA, PANAMA CANAL, AND OTHER SUBJECT. AFTERWARDS, THEY ISSUED A JOINT STATEMENT EXPRESSING COMPLETE AGREEMENT ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF INTENSIFYING BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL, AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION AS WELL AS ON EXPANDING TRADE. THE STATEMENT ALSO SAID THAT DE LA FLOR HAD EXTENDED, AND SILVEIRA HAD ACCEPTED, AN INVITATION TO VISIT LIMA.

3. MIXED COMMISSION: COPPER, OIL, TRADE. THE STATEMENT NOTED THAT THE THIRD MEETING OF THE PERU/BRAZIL MIXED COMMISSION WOULD MEET IN LIMA DURING SEPTEMBER TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR EXPANDED PERUVIAN EXPORTS TO BRAZIL OF NON-FERROUS METALS AND FOR A COMPARABLE INCREASE IN BRAZIL'S EXPORTS TO PERU. SOME NEWS REPORTS REFERRED TO \$80 MILLION IN EXPANDED BRAZILIAN IMPORTS OF PERUVIAN COPPER, AND TO GREATER BRAZILIAN EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURES.

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4. NUCLEAR COOPERATION: TO NEWS REPORTS,
GOB SOURCES SAID THAT PERU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN
BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM. PERU, THESE
SOURCES SAID, IS A POTENTIAL BRAZILIAN CLIENT FOR ENRICHED
URANIUM ANOTHER NUCLEAR PRODUCTS. FONMIN'S
NUCLEAR SPECIALIST TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE HAD BEEN
SURPRISED TO READ THE REPORT SINCE PERU HAS PROPOSED
NOTHING SPECIFIC IN THIS AREA. HE NOTED, HOWEVER,

THAT BRAZIL IS OPEN TO PROPOSALS FOR COORDINATION WITH FRIENDLY COUNTRIES FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

5. PRESS REPORTS QUOTED DE LA FLOR AS SAYING THAT PERU IS OBSERVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BRAZIOIAN" GERMAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT VERY CLOSELY, AND THAT PERU HAS NO REASON NOT TO SUPPORT IT IF, AS HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED, THE AGREEMENT HAS PEACEFUL ENDS. FONMIN'S PERUVIAN DSK OFFICER TOLD EMBOFF THAT PERU MIGHT HAVE SOME CONCERNS ABOUT BRAZIL'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM BUT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN EXPRESSED TO THE GOB.

- 6. THIRD WORLD ISSUES AND SELA: ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS:
- -- AT THE LUNCH FOR DE LA FLOR, SILVEIRA CONDEMNED A WORLD POWER EQUILIBRIUM WHICH DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE MAJORITY, REPUDIATED PROTECTIONISM BY DC'S, AND APPEALED FOR BETTER TRADE PREFERENCES.
- -- DE LA FLOR COMPLIMENTED BRAZIL ON BEING "PERFECTLY THIRD-WORLDIST."
- -- BOTH MINISTERS EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR SCHEMES TO DEFEND AND STABILIZE PRIMARY PRODUCT PRICES AND FOR CORRECTIVE MONETARY MEASURE S TO ASSURE SUFFICIENT FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR LDC'S: THEY FURTHER PROCLAIMED THAT BRAZIL AND PERU ARE IN THE VANGUARD OF COUNTRIES CLAIMING BETTER INTERNATIONAL TREATMENT FOR LDC'S, INCLUDING SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OVER NATURAL RESOURCES.
- -- SILVEIRA REFERRED TO BRAZIL'S "UNALTERABLE CONVICTIONS" ON LAW-OF-THE-SEA ISSUES
- -- DE LA FLOR SAID PERU FAVORS SELA BUT RECOMMENDS A CAREFUL ANALYSIS TO ENSURE THAT ITS OBJECTIVES RESPOND TO LA PECULARITIES. HE ADDED THAT PERU DOES NOT WANT SELA TO BE AN INSTRUMENT OF CONFRONTATION WITH THE US. SELA'S PURPOSE, IN HIS VIEW, IS TO DEFEND RAW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MATERIALS PRICES AND LA WEALTH.

-- DE LA FLOR CONFIRMED THAT BRAZIL WOULD BE AN OBSERVER AT THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN LIMA LATER THIS MONTH.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 GSA-01 INT-05 ERDA-05 IO-10 AF-06 EUR-12

EA-07 SAJ-01 OES-03 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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7. FONMIN'S PERUVIAN DESK OFFICER TOLD EMBOFF THAT, IN HIS VIEW, DESPITE THE EXTENSIVE THRID WORLD RHETORIC, BRAZIL HAS GONE ABOUT AS FAR LEFT IN MULTILATERAL BODIES AS IT CAN GO CONSISTENT WITH THE GOB'S OVERALL, FUNDAMENTAL DIRECTION: AND PERU, AS A THIRD WORLD PROSELYTIZER, RECOGNIZES THIS.

8. BILATERAL RELATIONS: AT HIS PRESS
CONFERENCE, DE LA FLOR REPORTEDLY COMMENTED
THAT, "DESPITE SOME PROBLEMS AFTER THE PERUVIAN
REVOLUTION BEGAN, PERU NOW VIEWS BRAZILIAN RELATIONS
WITH SERIOUSNESS AND ENTHUSIASM. A NEW PHASE IN
RELATIONS IS BEING REFLECTED IN THE EXCHANGES OF
IDEAS IN THE MIXED COMMISSION." FONMIN DESK OFFICER
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EXPLAINED TO EMBOFF THAT RELATIONS WITH PERU HAVE NOT BEEN WARM: IN FACT, THEY HAVE BEEN ALMOST NON-EXISTENT EXCEPT FOR A LOW LEVEL OF TRADE (BRAZIL'S EXPORTS TO PERU WERE \$57 MILLION IN 1974). RELATIONS HVE SLOWLY IMPROVED, HE SAID, BECAUSE OF A) PERU'S GROWING MODERATION, B) ITS PERCEPTION OF BRAZIL AS

A POSSIBLE "PARTNER," MAINLY IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE, C) BRAZIL'S HEIGHTENED INTEREST IN THE PACIFIC SIDE OF LA, AND D) BRAZIL'S PATIENCE WITH PERU. HE CHARACTERIZED RELATIONS AS GOOD IN THE SENSE THAT PERU HAS FEWER PROBLEMS WITH BRAZIL THAN WITH HER OTHERNEIGHBORS. NONETHELESS, HE BELIEVES THAT PERU IS "DRUNK WITH RHETORIC AND WITH DREAMS OF SHCEMES WHICH IT CANNOT IMPLEMENT. THE PERUVIANS ARE ALWAYS SAYING THAT THEY ARE THE GREAT MEN OF THE WORLD."

9. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, PERUVIAN DCM HERE TOOK AN ENTHUSIASTIC LINE, FORESEEING INCREASED PERUVIAN EXPORTS TO BRAZIL AND GREATER CO-OPERATION IN THE AMAZON BORDER AREA. HE MINIMIZED IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES AS CONTAINABLE AND SEPARATE FROM THE MANY COMMON POSITIONS ON WORLD ECONOMIC ISSUES, AND HE EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT THE BRAZILIAN STANCE AND EVEN RESPONSIVENESS ON THESE ISSUES. HE ALSO SAID BOTH COUNTRIES FAVORED SELA. ALTHOUGH THE GOB IS APPRECIABLY MORE RESERVED THAN THE GOP. A MEMBER OF SILVEIRA'S STAFF AGREED THAT PROSPECTS FOR INCREASED BILATERAL TRADE WERE GOOD: HE SAID BRAZIL HS SOME MARGIN FOR INCREASED COPPER IMPORTS WITHOUT DAMAGE TO CHILE. HE SAID THE VISIT WAS PART OF BRAZIL'S "FRONTIER POLICY." ITS WELL-ESTABLISHED AND CONTINUING EFFORT TO FOSTER ECONOMIC, TRANSPORTATION, AND COMMUNICATIONS INTEGRATION BETWEEN BRAZIL AND EACH OF ITS NEIGHBORS. "INTERNAL REACTION" (I.E., HARD-LINERS IN BRAZIL) UNDERSTOOD THE PRAGMATIC BASIS FOR THE VISIT AND HAD NO OBJECTION, THE OFFICIAL CONTENDED.

10. COMMENT: THE VISIT AND ITS AURA OF GOOD FEELING MUST HAVE SEEMED A LITTLE STRANGE TO THOSE OBSERVERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSCIOUS OF THE COMBINATION OF MYSTIFICATIONS
AND DISDAIN WITH WHICH BRAZIL'S MILITARY LEADERS
HAVE SINCE 1968 REGARDED THEIR PERUVIAN COUNTERPARTS -AND THE WELL-KNOWN AND OFTEN EXPRESSED
SUSPICIONS AND DISTRUST OF SENIOR PERUVIAN OFFICIALS
TOWARD THE GOB. THE VISIT AND ITS SUBSTANTIAL PRESS
COVERAGE ALSO POINTED UP THE FACT THAT PERU IS
REALLY NOT MUCH IN THE NEWS HERE, EXCEPT FOR CONSISTENTLY
NEGATIVE PRESS COVERAGE BY THE ESTADO DE
SAO PAULO. VARIOUS FACTORS COMBINE TO SUPPORT
SOME IMPROVEMENT IN PERUVIAN-BRAZILIAN RELATIONS:
THE VERY LONGEVITY OF THE PERUVIAN REGIME, THE
ABOVE-MENTIONED "FRONTIER POLICY", AND THE MANY

COMMON POSITIONS ON WORLD ECONOMIC ISSUES. WE NEVERTHELESS ESTIMATE THAT ANY MEANINGFUL RAPPROCHEMENT WILL BE SLOW IN COMING, AND THAT THE TOUCHSTONE ISSUE WILL CONTINUE TO BE CHILE. CRIMMINS

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